Docket No.: 7539CO2

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CLAIMS

(cancelled) 1. 2. (cancelled) 3. (cancelled) 4. (cancelled) 5. (cancelled) 6. (cancelled) 7. (presently amended) The method of claim 6 11 wherein the alcohol is selected from the group consisting of ethylene glycol, diethylene glycol, propylene glycol and glycerine. 8. (presently amended) The method of claim 6 11 wherein the alcohol is diethylene glycol. 9. (cancelled) (presently amended) A synthetic fuel prepared according to the method of claim ± 11 . 10.

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- 11. (new) A method of preparing a synthetic fuel from coal comprising applying to the coal an aqueous emulsion comprising (a) one or more reactive polymers and (b) one or more alcohols and thoroughly mixing the coal to yield a complete reaction of the coal with the reactive polymers, wherein the reactive polymers are selected from the group consisting of ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymers, ethylene/vinyl alcohol copolymers, poly(acrylic acid), poly(vinyl alcohol), vinyl alcohol/vinyl acetate copolymers, poly(vinyl acetate), vinyl acetate/acrylic acid copolymers, poly(vinyl acetate/acrylic acid/ethylene), acrylic acid/acrylamide copolymers and poly(acrylamide).
- 12. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the reactive polymer is ethylene/vinyl acetate copolymer.
- 13. (new) The method of claim 11 wherein the coal is selected from the group consisting of fine coal from stockpiles, fine coal from impoundments, run of mine coal unwashed and run of mine coal washed.